REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Advisory Action mailed May 22, 2006, the Examiner found patentable subject matter in claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 16-18, and 21-26. Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-15, and 19-20 were rejected.

The Advisory Action was issued in reply to the Amendment dated May 10, 2006, which was filed in response to an Office Action dated February 10, 2006. In that Office Action, claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-16, 19 and 20 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,239,994 to Abdoulin ("Abdoulin").

A feature of the invention recited in each amended independent claim is "at least one pair of MOSFETS connected in series in a bridge configuration across the nominal input voltage", recited in claim 1 and "a pair of MOSFETS connected to one another in series in a half-bridge configuration across the nominal input voltage", recited in claims 13 and 15. These MOSFETS are shown in Figure 4 as switches M1 and M2, with the drain of the high side switch M1 being connected to the +48V terminal and the source of the low side switch M2 being connected to the ground.

Firstly, Abdoulin does not show or suggest the recited arrangement. Instead, in Figures 13 and 14 Abdoulin shows two switches driven by the primary side driver, each switch being connected between an inductor coil and the ground.

Secondly, Abdoulin uses a dual synchronous controller with feedback from the output to regulate the circuits of Figures 5 and 9. The controller is shown in Figure 11 and in Figures 13 and 14 as the controller 113. Contrarily, the present invention describes and claims an unregulated power module for providing the intermediate bus voltage. Regulation is provided downstream.

Finally, Abdoulin describes a driver to control the switches coupled to and driving a center tapped primary side transformer winding. The inventive controller used for driving the above-discussed pair of MOSFETS, is the half-bridge controller IC 415 shown in Figure 4 of the application. The inventive controller is recited in independent claims 13, and 15 as well as claims 3 and 8, it is described on page 7, paragraph 29 of the application as:

> Half-bridge controller IC 415 is operable to provide high-side and low-side drive signals for primary driver MOSFETS M1, M2 with a 50% duty cycle and a minimum number of external components. (underlining is added for emphasis)

Thus, Abdoulin does not teach, disclose, or suggest at least these features, i.e., an unregulated power module, above discussed, with series connected pair of MOSFETS, and the half-bridge controller IC of the claims of the present application.

Claims 2-12, 14, and 16-27 depend directly or indirectly from the above discussed independent claims and are, therefore, patentable for the same reasons, as well as because of the combination of features in those claims with the features set forth in the independent claims.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the present application is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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